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THE XV WORLD SANSKRIT CONFERENCE
(New Delhi, January 5th–10th, 2012)

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF SANSKRIT STUDIES
(I.A.S.S.)

MEETINGS OF THE I.A.S.S.
DURING THE 15th WORLD SANSKRIT CONFERENCE
HELD IN NEW DELHI

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE I.A.S.S. BOARD
NEW DELHI, 5TH JANUARY 2012

Present: Prof. V. Kutumba Sastry (President), Prof. Bruno Dagens (Treasurer), Prof. John Brockington (Secretary General), Professors Oskar von Hinüber and R.K. Sharma.

1. The Minutes of the Board meetings held at Kyoto. 1st and 2nd September 2009 (previously circulated) were approved.

2. The Secretary General reported briefly on the 14th WSC held in Kyoto and on the state of progress on publication of the proceedings of the Helsinki and Edinburgh WSCs.

3. The Treasurer presented his report and that of the auditors on the accounts for the year 2011. There were currently 83 individual members and affiliated national associations in France, Germany, Japan and Russia; the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan was in arrears on its institutional subscription. Professor von Hinüber was willing to continue as an auditor for the accounts but a replacement was needed for Professor George Pinault in view of his expected election as Treasurer; it was agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that Professor Nalini Balbir be appointed.

4. a) After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Board would not make a recommendation of a preferred candidate for the post of Secretary General, while the mechanism to be used would be discussed further at the meeting of the Consultative Committee the next day. However, it was agreed to recommend that the two unsuccessful candidates be elected to the Consultative Committee, along with Professor Hari Dutt Sharma. The Board also agreed to recommend that John Brockington, Bruno Dagens and Irma Piovano should be

elected as Vice Presidents in recognition of their past services to the IASS.

b) Professor Georges-Jean Pinault (nominated by Professor Oskar von Hinüber and seconded by Professor Nalini Balbir) has been proposed for election as Treasurer to succeed Bruno Dagens and it was agreed to recommend this to the General Assembly.

c) Professor Juan Miguel de Mora is retiring as regional director for Latin America and Dr Wendy Phillips-Rodríguez has been proposed to succeed him (nominated by Juan Miguel de Mora and seconded by John Brockington). Professor Akihiko Akamatsu is retiring as regional director for East Asia and proposed Professor Hideyo Ogawa to succeed him. The Board agreed to recommend both of these.

5. The offer from the Sanskrit Studies Centre, Silpakorn University, Bangkok, to host the 16th WSC in 2015, had been accepted at the 14th WSC. Our Thai colleagues were not yet ready to announce a firm date but would be invited to speak briefly at the General Assembly.

6. An offer to host the 17th WSC in 2018 from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, made through Professor Adheesh Sathaye was welcomed and it was agreed to recommend it to the General Assembly for acceptance, with Professor Sathaye speaking then about the offer.

7. In discussion about the conferment of status of Research Fellow (honorary) the name of Dr Sally Sutherland Goldman was again put forward.

8. Professors Dagens and Rukmani both wished to step down from the adjudication panel for the next DK Award but Professor Brockington was willing to continue for the current round only, in order to provide continuity. Considerable discussion of suitable new adjudicators followed and it was agreed to approach Dr Bettina Bäumer.

9. The Board agreed to recommend that the General Assembly pass a resolution requesting the Government of India to give the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan the status of a Central International Sanskrit University by Act of Parliament

(proposed by Professor R.K. Sharma and supported by Professor R.V. Tripathi and others)

10. The Board agreed to recommend that the General Assembly pass a resolution to create international centres for documentary resources for Sanskrit (put forward by Professor Veeranarayana Pandurangi, Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Samskrita University)

11. The Board agreed to recommend the desirability of including a section on Sanskrit Pedagogy in future WSCs (proposed by Professor Kutumba Sastry)

12. The Board agreed to recommend that the General Assembly accept with gratitude the request from the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan to publish the Proceedings of the 15th WSC currently in progress.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE I.A.S.S.
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
NEW DELHI, 6TH JANUARY 2012

Present: Professors V. Kutumba Sastry, Bruno Dagens, John Brockington, Ashok Aklujkar, Greg Bailey, Mislav Jezic, C. S. Radhakrishnan, Vijay Rajopadhyay, T. S. Rukmani, R. K. Sharma and Radhavallabh Tripathi.

1. The minutes of the Consultative Committee meeting held at Kyoto, 4th September 2009 (previously circulated) were approved and a report was given on the Board meeting on Thursday 5th January.

2. The Secretary General reported briefly on the 14th WSC held in Kyoto and on the state of progress on publication of the proceedings of the Helsinki and Edinburgh WSCs.

3. The Treasurer presented his report and that of the auditors on the accounts for the year 2011. There were currently 83 individual members and affiliated national associations in France, Germany, Japan and Russia; the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan was in arrears on its institutional subscription. Professor von Hinüber was willing to continue as an auditor for

the accounts but a replacement was needed for Professor George Pinault in view of his expected election as Treasurer; it was agreed to recommend to the General Assembly that Professor Nalini Balbir be appointed.

4. The Consultative Committee endorsed the Board's recommendations regarding the election or re-election of the Secretary General, Treasurer and members of the Board and Consultative Committee [cf. above]. It too decided after further discussion that no single name should be recommended to the General Assembly.

5. It was agreed that our Thai colleagues should speak briefly at the General Assembly to give some further details of their offer to host the 16th WSC in 2015 at the Sanskrit Studies Centre, Silpakorn University, Bangkok.

6. The Consultative Committee endorsed the Board's decision to recommend acceptance of the offer from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver to host the 17th WSC in 2018.

7. Conferment of status of Research Fellow (honorary) of the IASS. In the interval since the Board meeting the Secretary General had contacted Dr Sally Sutherland Goldman, who had stated that she was ineligible as she had a permanent post but expressed appreciation of the gesture. The names of Dr Kristi Wiley and Dr Luis Gonzalez were then put forward and it was agreed to recommend both to the General Assembly.

8. The Consultative Committee endorsed the Board's recommendation to request Dr Bettina Bäumer to serve on the adjudication panel for the DK Award and suggested for its other member the names of Professors Phyllis Granoff, K. Ramasubramanian, S.R. Sarma and Jayendra Soni. [Professor Ramasubramanian was approached by the President next day and agreed to serve.]

9. The Consultative Committee endorsed the Board's recommendation to pass a resolution requesting the Government of India to give the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan the status of a Central International Sanskrit University by Act of Parliament.

10. The Consultative Committee broadly endorsed the Board's recommendation to the General Assembly of a proposal

to create international centres for documentary resources for Sanskrit but recommended the removal of a specific number of 5 centres in favour of "several" or an equivalent and the inclusion of reference to the need to integrate access for scholars.

11. The Consultative Committee endorsed the Board's acceptance of the desirability of including a section on Sanskrit Pedagogy in future WSCs and recommended that this should be extended to the current state of Sanskrit studies.

12. The Consultative Committee agreed to recommend to the General Assembly a resolution regarding the position of Sanskrit language teaching in Indian schools (in particular in Tamilnad), asking Ashok Aklujkar to draw up a suitable form of words.

13. The Consultative Committee agreed to recommend to the General Assembly a resolution urging that the National Manuscripts Mission be made a permanent body and another recommending it to set up a Sanskrit Commission to update, complement and continue the work of the first Sanskrit Commission of 1956.

14. The Consultative Committee heartily endorsed the Board's recommendation that the General Assembly accept with gratitude the request from the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan to publish the Proceedings of the 15th WSC.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE I.A.S.S. NEW DELHI, 6TH JANUARY 2012

Present: Prof. V. Kutumba Sastry (President), Prof. Bruno Dagens (Treasurer), Prof. John Brockington (Secretary General) and almost sixty members, as well as other participants in the 15th WSC.

1. The President opened the meeting. The minutes of the General Meeting held at Kyoto, 5th September 2009 (previously circulated), were accepted.

2. Item 4 on the agenda was taken next, with the agreement of the meeting. After the Board's recommendation that the two

unsuccessful candidates for the post of Secretary General should be elected to the Consultative Committee had been announced and agreed to, the procedure recommended for conducting the ballot was announced and accepted. The ballot was then conducted, with the meeting adjourned meantime. After it was announced that the candidate who received the largest number of votes in the ballot was Dr Jayandra Soni, who was therefore declared duly elected Secretary General, the meeting then elected Professor George-Jean Pinault as Treasurer, Professors Donald R. Davis, Hari Dutt Sharma and McComas Taylor as members of the Consultative Committee, and Professors John Brockington, Bruno Dagens and Irma Piovano as Vice Presidents. Thanks were expressed to the outgoing Secretary General and Treasurer.

3. The Secretary General presented his report, referring back to his reading of the list of scholars who have died since the Kyoto World Sanskrit Conference (as recorded in I.A.S.S. Newsletter 10) at the opening session and briefly commenting on the 14th WSC and on progress on publication of the proceedings of the Helsinki and Edinburgh WSCs.

4. The Treasurer presented his report and that of the auditors on the accounts for the year 2011. There were currently 83 individual members and affiliated national associations in France, Germany, Japan and Russia; the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan was in arrears on its institutional subscription. Professor von Hiniiber was willing to continue as an auditor for the accounts and was re-appointed; the meeting then agreed that Professor Nalini Balbir be appointed an auditor to replace Professor Pinault.

5. On behalf of the Sanskrit Studies Centre, Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Dr Samniang Leurmsai spoke briefly about its preparations to host the 16th WSC in 2015.

6. An offer to host the 17th WSC in 2018 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, was presented by Professor Adheesh Sathaye and warmly welcomed by the General Assembly.

7. The General Assembly ratified the Board's recommendation to appoint Dr Kristi Wiley and Dr Luiz Gonzalez-Reimann as Research Fellows (honorary) of the IASS.

8. The General Assembly ratified the recommendations made by the Board and the Consultative Committee that it request Dr Bettina Bäumer and Professor K. Ramasubramanian to serve on the adjudication panel for the DK Award, alongside Professor John Brockington, who was willing to continue for one more round.

9. After some discussion in particular of the issue of Sanskrit teaching in schools in the Indian states, a series of resolutions were passed which are listed in a separate document; the Secretary General was requested to forward them as appropriate.

11. The General Assembly endorsed the Board's acceptance of the desirability of including a section on Sanskrit Pedagogy in future WSCs.

12. As recommended by the Board, the General Assembly accepted with gratitude the request from the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan to publish the Proceedings of the 15th WSC currently in progress.

13. Warm thanks were expressed to the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan for its excellent organisation of the 15th WSC. The President then declared the meeting closed.